

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/578,132	WISCHINSKI, RAINER H	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thomas K. Pham	2121	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 10/31/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

***Reasons for Allowance***

1. Claims 1-14 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

While Revashetti (U.S. Patent No. 6,230,199) discloses a system for scanning client's computer to determine the present of certain software programs for the purpose of providing updates to those software programs. The system includes a product information database, a marketing rule knowledge base, and an opportunity detection object which comprises a scan engine for comparing the client computer against the product information database to determine the configuration of the client computer, and an opportunity analysis engine for analyzing the client configuration inventory against the marketing rule knowledge base. The scanning program can be initiated by either the client via a link to the host computer or automatically initiate the scan upon each client visiting the host computer. Revashetti does not teach a device identifier for periodically querying automation device(s) to obtain from each device information identifying at least some of its component hardware, software and firmware for providing with component identifications for the device(s), wherein the database stores data relating to requests for information regarding the device components; and other limitations related to these features in combination with the remaining elements and features of the claimed invention.

And Cheng (U.S. Patent No. 6,151,643) discloses a system and method for updating client computers of various end users with software updates for software products installed on the client computers. The system includes a service provider who stores in an update database information about the software updates of diverse software vendors, identifying for which software updates are available and the location on the network at the various software vendor

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computer systems. A client application initiates on the client computer determines which software updates are relevant to the client computers by periodically connects over the network to the service provider's update database and for downloading necessary software updates to the client computers. Cheng does not teach a device identifier for periodically querying automation device(s) to obtain from each device information identifying at least some of its component hardware, software and firmware for providing with component identifications for the device(s), wherein the database stores data relating to requests for information regarding the device components; and other limitations related to these features in combination with the remaining elements and features of the claimed invention.

Neither of these references taken either alone or in combination discloses a device for remote configuration monitoring of an industrial control system having all the claimed features of applicant's instant invention, specifically including: a device identifier for periodically querying automation device(s) to obtain from each device information identifying at least some of its component hardware, software and firmware for providing with component identifications for the device(s), wherein the database stores data relating to requests for information regarding the device components. Also, there is no motivation to combine the ... reference with the ... reference to meet these limitations. It is for these reasons that applicant's invention defines over the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner *Thomas Pham*; whose telephone number is (571) 272-3689, Monday to Thursday from 6:30 AM - 5:00 PM EST or contact Supervisor *Mr. Anthony Knight* at (571) 272-3687.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

**Thomas Pham**  
*Patent Examiner*



January 4, 2006



**Anthony Knight**  
Supervisor, Patent Examiner  
Group 3600